

Appl. No. 09/821,858

Amendment Dated: October 6, 2003

Reply to Office action of May 7, 2003

In the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended). A device for the recombination of hydrogen and oxygen in a gas mixture, comprising:

a heating chamber;

a number of heating elements for heating said heating chamber;

a number of flow pipes, each of said heating elements disposed within a respective one of said flow pipes;

a feed line for feeding a gas mixture having a hydrogen content with a parameter characteristic, into said heating chamber;

a blower connected in said feed line and having a delivery rate; and

a control unit associated with said blower for adjusting the delivery rate of said blower in dependence on the parameter characteristic for the hydrogen content of the gas mixture.

Claim 2 (Original). The device according to claim 1, including a hydrogen sensor for determining the hydrogen content of the gas mixture, said control unit having an input side connected to said hydrogen sensor.

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Claims 3-4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Original). The device according to claim 1, wherein said heating chamber has a downstream side, and a reaction chamber is connected at said downstream side of said heating chamber.

Claim 6 (Original). The device according to claim 1, including a static mixer connected downstream of said heating chamber.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended). The device according to claim 6, wherein further comprising:

a reaction chamber for containing a recombination reaction disposed downstream of said static mixer; and

a duct system connected to said reaction chamber, contacting said static mixer, and carrying the gas mixture has a flow path permitting said static mixer to be heated by a partial stream of the gas mixture heated as a result of a the recombination reaction to heat said static mixer.

Claim 8 (Original). The device according to claim 1, including an internally insulated housing in which said heating chamber is disposed.

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Claim 9 (Original). The device according to claim 8, wherein said heating chamber has a downstream side, a splash cooler is connected on said downstream side of said heating chamber, and said splash cooler has a housing directly connected to said internally insulated housing in which said heating chamber is disposed.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended). The device according to claim 1, wherein the parameter characteristic is a measured temperature value of the gas mixture flowing out of said heating chamber; and

a temperature sensor connected to said heating chamber and said control unit measures the temperature value of the gas mixture flowing out of said heating chamber.

Claims 11-13 (Withdrawn).